

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

New claims 27 and 28 are added. Support for the claims is found, for example, on page 40, line 21 through page 42, line 18, of the application.

Claims 4, 14 and 24-28 are currently pending.

II. OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims are amended to overcome the objection.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the objection is overcome.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 4, 14, 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by (U.S. Patent No. 5,666,538) to DeNicola.

Amended claim 4 recites detecting an accessed state to a first common device by an electronic apparatus, moving files contained in the first common device to a second common device based on the detected accessed state of the first common device, to gather together files accessed a predetermined number of times onto the second common device, and controlling an operational state of the first common device as a result of said moving of files, to thereby reduce power consumption by the management apparatus. Amended claims 14, 24 and 26 recite somewhat similar features.

The Examiner states that DeNicola "teaches that the rearrangement of the components comprises gathering together components accessed a predetermined number of times, by determining the number of accesses to a drive and comparing it to a limit on the number of drive accesses before redistribution of information occurs." The Examiner cites specific portions of DeNicola, such as column 3, lines 59-63, relating to redistributing data from higher access drives to lower access drives, and column 8, lines 29-40, relating to storing the number of disk accesses during an activity block. However, DeNicola fails to disclose the present invention as recited, for example, in amended claim 4.

DeNicola discloses monitoring accesses to disk drives over time to produce a statistical record of said accesses. See column 3, lines 52-56, of DeNicola. Based on a histogram, data can be redistributed from disk drives that are accessed more frequently to disk drives that are accessed less frequently by a network administrator. See column 3, lines 52-63 and column 10, lines 7-12, of DeNicola.

DeNicola discloses keeping a record of accesses to drives. See Fig. 6A, column 3, lines 52-63 and column 9, lines 52-58, of DeNicola. However, DeNicola does not disclose moving files contained in a first common device to a second common device based on a detected accessed state of the first common device, to gather together files accessed a predetermined number of times onto the second common device.

Further, DeNicola fails to disclose controlling power as recited, for example, in claim 4. DeNicola discloses a network administrator redistributing data among disk drives to even out the access frequency. See column 10, lines 7-12, of DeNicola. Such redistribution does not reduce power consumption by a management apparatus in the manner of the present invention as recited, for example, in amended claim 4 – via controlling an operational state of a first common device as a result of moving files to a second storage device.

Therefore, DeNicola does not disclose the present invention as recited, for example, in amended claim 4.

Although the above comments are specifically directed to claim 4, it is respectfully submitted that the comments would be helpful in understanding various differences of various other claims over the cited reference.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

IV. CONCLUSION

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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